

HONORING LAURIE RICHARDSON

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the state of Nevada, I would like to congratulate Mrs. Laurie Richardson of Henderson, Nevada for her achievement and recognition as Mother of the Year by the American Mothers Inc. (AMI). While all 50 states are represented, as well as Puerto Rico, this is their 51st award and the first one that has been awarded to a resident of Nevada since the state's chapter began in the 1940's.

While this award recognizes her only as a mother, Mrs. Richardson is also a distinguished singer in a Grammy award-winning choir, a grandmother of nine, an advocate for children with special needs, and a dynamic guest speaker for special education issues. Mrs. Richardson has volunteered with various school districts for over 29 years before recently becoming a full-time child advocate.

While also raising three of her own children, Mrs. Richardson has opened her home and her heart to raise four foster children as well. Upon her reception of this distinguished award, Mrs. Richardson will represent AMI for the next calendar year as she advocates the importance of motherhood around the country.

Mrs. Richardson has not only set a benchmark for mothers throughout this country, but she is also a great example for all Nevada families. Mrs. Richardson's dedication to children is truly inspirational. As a Representative of Nevada, I am very proud to have her as a part of my community. I commend and congratulate her for this great achievement.

A PULITZER FOR THELONIOUS MONK

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the legendary jazz pianist Thelonious Monk. In April, the 90th annual Pulitzer Prizes were announced and Monk was selected to receive a posthumous Award "for a body of distinguished and innovative musical composition that has had a significant and enduring impact on the evolution of jazz."

Every few generations there are people who come along that change the way we look at the world, for musical enthusiasts Monk is one of these individuals. Tom Carter, President of the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, put it quite succinctly when he recently said that Monk's "... unique sound and creative spirit revolutionized the music and transcends generations." Thelonious' piano playing and compositions were truly revolutionary and they helped bridge the gap from bebop to modern jazz.

Thelonious Sphere Monk (1917–1982) was one of the architects of bebop and his impact as a composer and pianist has had a profound influence on every genre of music.

Monk was born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, but his parents, Barbara Batts and Thelonious Monk, soon moved the family to

New York City. Monk began piano lessons as a young child and by the age of 13 he had won the weekly amateur contest at the Apollo Theater so many times that he was barred from entering. At the age of 19, Monk joined the house band at Minton's Playhouse in Harlem, where along with Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, and a handful of other players, he developed the style of jazz that came to be known as bebop. Monk's compositions, among them "Round Midnight," were the canvasses over which these legendary soloists expressed their musical ideas.

In 1947, Monk made his first recordings as a leader for Blue Note. These albums are some of the earliest documents of his unique compositional and improvisational style, both of which employed unusual repetition of phrases, an offbeat use of space, and joyfully dissonant sounds. In the decades that followed, Monk played on recordings with Miles Davis, Charlie Parker, and Sonny Rollins and recorded as a leader for Prestige Records and later for Riverside Records. Brilliant Corners and Thelonious Monk with John Coltrane were two of the albums from this period that brought Monk international attention as a pianist and composer.

In 1957, the Thelonious Monk Quartet, which included John Coltrane, began a regular gig at the Five Spot. The group's performances were hugely successful and received the highest critical praise. Over the next few years, Monk toured the United States and Europe and made some of his most influential recordings. In 1964, Thelonious Monk appeared on the cover of Time magazine, an honor that has been bestowed on only three other jazz musicians. By this time, Monk was a favorite at jazz festivals around the world, where he performed with his quartet, which included long-time associate Charlie Rouse. In the early '70s he discontinued touring and recording and appeared only on rare occasions at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall and the Newport Jazz Festival.

Thelonious passed away on February 5, 1982. His more than 70 compositions are classics which continue to inspire artists in all forms of music. In his lifetime he received numerous awards and continues to be honored posthumously. The Smithsonian Institution has immortalized his work with an archive of his music. In addition, the U.S. Postal Service issued a stamp in his honor. A feature documentary on Monk's life, *Straight, No Chaser*, was released to critical acclaim. Monk's integrity, originality, and unique approach set a standard that is a shining example for all who strive for musical excellence.

Monk is the first jazz musician and composer to receive the honor since 1999, when a Special Citation was awarded to Duke Ellington on the centennial of his birth. In addition to Ellington and Monk, only three other jazz composers have been recipients of the Pulitzer: George Gershwin, Scott Joplin, and Wynton Marsalis.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH TENORE

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, America lost one of its finest scientists this week. And I lost both a constituent and a dear friend.

Kenneth Tenore, a coastal ecologist from Hollywood, Maryland, died of acute pancreatitis Sunday at University of Maryland Medical Center. He was 63.

I had the privilege of working with Ken in his role as director of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science's Chesapeake Biological Laboratory on Solomons Island.

Ken's work made an invaluable contribution to the health and vibrancy of the Chesapeake Bay, and his leadership brought together marine scientists from around the world to bolster the health of coastal waterways.

While at Solomons, he led collaborative research programs involving marine scientists from the United States, the Galicia region of Spain and Portugal.

His frequent visits to both countries have helped build strong scientific relationships that endure today.

At the time of his death, he was leading the Navigator Project, an international effort supported by the National Science Foundation and the Luso-American Foundation, to characterize and compare the ecology of coastal seas around the world.

Ken's efforts while serving the University of Maryland, my alma mater, reflect a man deeply committed to preserving the Earth for future generations.

While Ken was passionate about advancing technology to make new discoveries in his discipline, he was also a man that followed a higher moral code—even teaching a science and ethics course at the University of Notre Dame.

Father Ernan McMullin, a retired Notre Dame professor said of Ken: "He was an inspirational teacher who had a strong feeling for the philosophical and ethical issues in science."

Among his tremendous accomplishments, Ken founded and directed the Alliance for Coastal Technologies, a partnership of research institutions, environmental managers, and industry representatives which foster sensor technologies for use in monitoring coastal environments.

Ken leaves behind a sister, Dr. Elizabeth J. Tenore, a brother, Louis James Tenore, and a nephew, Louis James Tenore Jr.

Ken's life touched so many around the world: family, friends, and colleagues. I was privileged to know him.

On behalf of the Fifth Congressional District, I want to extend my sympathies to his family and join the scores of others in honoring his life's work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I missed three votes on May 9th, 2006. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 1499 (the Heroes Earned Retirement Opportunities Act); "yes" on H.R. 5037 (the Respect for America's Fallen Heroes Act) and "yes" on H.R. 3829 (the Jack C. Montgomery Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center Designation Act).